

hels of barley in the three years ending Dec. 31, 1963. So far seven separate contracts provided for the sale of 145,600,000 bushels of wheat and 28,000,000 bushels of barley. The eighth contract, to be negotiated within the next few months, should cover China's whole wheat commitment and most of the barley deal.

By the end of the year, however, Canadian farmers will expect another large, long-term arrangement for both products and they are not yet sure of getting it. Chinese authorities have indicated that they are not satisfied with the existing contracts and will seek much better terms in future. Last year Canada's total exports to China were valued at \$147,400,000. Figures on imports of Chinese goods are not complete yet but probably will not exceed \$6,000,000. If China is to continue buying Canadian grain on a large scale it is expected to demand greatly increased markets in this country.

Ottawa denies the rumor that it already has promised China larger markets for textiles and other products. But the rumor persists, and so does the air of uncertainty that hangs about the whole issue in the present political campaign. The only certain thing is that whichever party government is elected on April 8 it will quickly have to grapple with a very sensitive problem.

An Excellent Choice

The Dairy Farmers of Canada are to be congratulated on the appointment they have made of Mr. J. Lincoln Dewar as chairman of their national executive committee. Mr. Dewar comes from a family which has distinguished itself in dairying in this Province, and his long experience as secretary of our Dairyman's Association and Federation of Agriculture has brought him into contact with every phase of the dairying problem in Canada. He has presented admirable briefs for these organizations on several occasions, and can be said to have devoted his entire working life to the interests they represent.

This recognition of his ability is a matter of satisfaction to all Mr. Dewar's Island friends. He is taking over a role in which he will play a very important part in the expansion program of the dairy industry, at a time when there are many problems to be faced; and we extend our very best wishes to him for success.

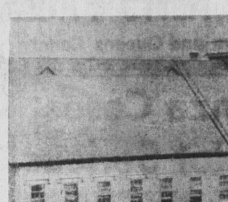
British Farm Prices

One of the things that caught lengthy wrangling in Brussels when Britain sought entry into the European Common Market was Britain's "cheap-food policy", largely financed by government guaranteed prices for home production and low-cost imports from the Commonwealth. Now that its bid for membership has failed, subsidies to British farmers, or "deficiency payments", as they are called, can be continued; but the farmers have been warned that the present system will be modified.

The warning came in the annual farm-price review published last week by Agriculture Minister Christopher Soames. This made it clear that the government intends to end the Treasury's unlimited commitment to make good farm-price deficiencies but will negotiate with Commonwealth and other overseas food suppliers to limit the import of foodstuffs tending to depress home markets.

This is a new angle to the situation. New at least to those who were telling us that Canadian farm trade with Britain would suffer in the event of Britain joining the Common Market. The reverse may prove to be the case. The government paper showed that the cost to the Exchequer of subsidizing British farmers had risen from the equivalent of \$736,400,000 in 1960-61 to \$1,020,000,000 for the coming year. The new price review awarded milk producers an extra halfpenny a gallon on the guaranteed price but passed it on to the consumer. It made changes in the guaranteed price for pigs and eggs and promised more later.

The government is committed to maintain its system of deficiency payments at least until the end of the present Parliament, which must in any case come next year. After that more drastic changes are anticipated, whether a Conservative or Labor government takes over.



OLD CHARLOTTETOWN

OLD MARKET HOUSE, BUILT 1867 DESTROYED BY FIRE 1902

Copied by Crawsell Portrait Studio

OTAWA REPORT by Patrick Nicholson

Election Campaign Funds And Expenses

"The election will not cost two million dollars—and it is not fair to the country to put it to that expense again so soon," protested an Ottawa voter. Many other Canadians have voiced the same sentiment.

What a lot they don't know! That sum would not even pay the bill of the Chief Electoral Officer for providing the machinery for the nation-wide vote-counting the voters, printing the ballot papers, setting up the polls, handling the voting and counting the vote. For our ten million voters, that will cost about \$1.28 each.

Then there is the huge expense incurred by each Party, on the national and constituency levels, and by every candidate. The true total of this spending is never known, because Parties do not have to report their spending, and no candidate possibly could obey the Canada Elections Act which forbids advertising in any election.

The Liberal Party spent in last June's election cycle reported that they spent no money at all, but they had a net cost of \$200,000, says John Turner, reported the highest expenditure of \$206,686. But several successful candidates in urban ridings are known to have spent more than \$50,000 to win for eight months the job worth \$10,000 a year.

GRIPS TOP SPENDERS "The Liberal Party spent between six and ten million dollars in the 1957 election," estimates Professor John Meisel, in his valuable survey of that election. The Conservative campaign he prices at over \$10 million (a three and one half million dollars). In 1962, the Liberal campaign cost \$15 million, says Meisel, and he also appears to have more to spend than in 1957. But this year the campaign costs of three parties are poorly filled; only the Liberals have abundant funds. The Conservatives still owe \$250,000 in Quebec from the 1962 election, and the MPs still count debts from that election, as does the NDP. The Social Credit Party has a string, and that's all they spent. So it is a fair guess that this

election will be a poor man's campaign, except on the part of the Liberals. NO COSTLY FRILLS This makes the task of the Chief Electoral Officer easier; if the parties lack funds for their legitimate expenses, they can hardly afford the costly organizing frills, such as printing colorful leaflet papers, organizing gung squads, and hiring female impersonators and other vote-telegraphers on polling day. Notably there have not yet been any "Musical Rides", which is the factious name given here to investigations by the RCMP of electoral irregularities.

The two small parties collect their war chests in "widow's mites". The Socialists have had that at meetings, often a raffle from \$50 to \$200, and they sell their membership in the party. The NDP raises some money through labour unions.

But the big parties pick up most of their funds in the form of successful fold of money donated by rich corporations. Often a company decides how much to contribute to the election, and then splits that sum between the Tories and the Liberals, traditionally giving 60 per cent to the governing party and 40 per cent to the "outs". Sometimes the split is 70-30, or "even 50-50".

In this campaign, many corporations decided to plump all on the Liberals. One prominent Liberal Senator has even been busy discouraging this—he fears that a swing of the pendulum might leave his party broke in another campaign! Nevertheless there will be fewer advertisements, less handbills, and more frugal expenses in this campaign—which may be the more effective!

But the national bill will be over \$120,000,000.

Danger lurks In Every Kitchen

By Dr. Theodore R. Van Dellen THE KITCHEN is the most dangerous room in the house according to Dr. Paul H. Martin, of the Ontario Health Department, Elkhart county, Ind. He came to this conclusion after a study of hundreds of poisonings of children under age five. Here are his reasons:

The kitchen has become the medicine cabinet of the house. Many extremely toxic household items are stored in places accessible to toddlers. The space under the sink usually contains ammonia, drain cleaner, toilet bowl cleaner, drain and toilet bowl cleaners. Other household store turpentine, paint remover, furniture polish, floor oil, rat and insect poisons in this convenient corner.

It is not only part of the story. It is difficult to hide any type of kitchen on a high shelf. The cookie jar is an example and the same can be said of the salt and pepper shakers, sonorous substances. It is easy for the average child to climb on stools, chairs, and pulled-out drawers.

When Dr. Martin sent a public health officer to investigate those whose children had been poisoned, such toxic products were not stored in the kitchen. The majority were in the original containers. But some of the most hazardous were in the laundry bleach, paint remover, and benzine, had been placed in milk cans, and even in a tin can. It is serious because most toddlers recognize these bottles and will hold them to the "milk".

Protect the children and keep kerosene, all bleaching compounds, all detergents, strong chlorinated cleaners and dishwashing compounds, all handbills, and more labeled "Poison" in a safe storage place, preferably under lock and key. The same goes for all medicines such as aspirin and vitamins.

Do these things now, tomorrow may be too late. SMALL APPETITE Dr. Martin's report says that 66 per cent of toddlers who do not eat well have a poor appetite. My mother puts as much food on my plate as I can eat. I sometimes get provoked if I don't finish it. Whenever I do clean up the plate, I feel very uncomfortable.

REPLY You are right and there is no advantage in making a person eat more than he needs or desires. We assume you are not killing your appetite with coffee or French fries on the way home from school. If I have had my usual amount of food, I will not eat any more.

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REPLY These symptoms may stem from a circulatory disorder, anemia, or heart disease. Please consult your doctor. I have arthritis of the neck and another possibility. A thorough examination is all that is necessary to determine the culprit.

OVERSICKENED NOSE My father always has been bothered with running nose. Now that he takes a duplicate of the medicine, I wonder anything he does to relieve it?

REPLY I doubt anything need be done, assuming that the medicine is aggravating a condition that is necessary to maintain the COLD SOCKS AND COLDS E.C.S. writes: I haven't had a cold in many years and attribute it to wearing wet socks, which act as a cold vaccine. What do you think of this?

REPLY Fartched and messy. I'm surprised you don't wear athlete's foot.

REPLY Today's Health Hint Don't let any of your work and play in a sitting position.

Moon Debris Peppers Earth

National Geographic Society Scientists are spending millions of dollars on intricate rockets and spacecraft to explore the moon and other planets. They step out their laboratory doors and scoop up bits of the moon or pieces of it they knew what to look for.

This paradox results, the National Geographic Society says, from the fact that the moon has no atmosphere to shield it from meteorites. Instead, meteorites fall into its surface, they actually explode the rock, leaving charred fragments of the meteorite.

Some fragments of the moon are hurled away so fast they escape Earth's atmosphere. One one-eighth of that of the earth captured by earth's gravity, these pieces are scattered on its surface, according to lunar experts.

LITTLE DIFFERENCE But there is no way of identifying the meteorites that are scattered on the moon. They are all that originated on the moon.

So, to study to clear range the earth, the National Geographic Society and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration plans to send a manned lunar lander, called Ranger, in addition to the five unsuccessful craft already launched.

Information radioed to earth from the moon will be essential to the study of the moon. The United States hopes to make before 1971.

The next group of Rangers to be launched will be the Ranger television stations in space. They will carry a battery of six television cameras each and send back pictures of the moon as they smash into the moon—so hard they instantly vaporize. They will dig up new information about the moon.

It is possible that later Ranger will attempt to crashland with a camera which will be relayed to earth by the firmness of the moon's surface.

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NOTES BY THE WAY

Nothing makes you mentally tired quicker than constantly thinking about how physically tired you are. —Sherbrooke Record

Quebe by the Ontario State League: We laugh at savages for beating drums to warn of a peril, yet we beat drums to can break a traffic jam by honking our horns. —S. Catharines Standard

The National Shoe Institute estimates that an average storehouse walks seven and one-half miles a day. A stevedore, six miles, a salesgirl, eight miles, and a waitress, twelve miles. An apartment house letter carrier walks twenty-two miles a day, and the average policeman's feet carry him fourteen miles a day. —Ottawa Citizen

There was a time—and it may not have receded entirely into the past—when a spinster approached an unmarried fellow of age was more or less irreverently referred to as an "unclaimed treasure".

It seems that muskeg, occasionally mentioned in news stories from Canada's far north, falls within the same category. It signifies "grassy bog".

A tale is told of a tenderfoot from Canada's far north, the muskeg was the egg of the muskeg, also associated with the name of the muskeg.

It is, actually, treacherous, unstable, vast breeding ground for mosquitoes. It makes one's eyes burn, and it is a nightmare.

And Canada has 50,000 square miles of muskeg. It is a nightmare. But what has always been considered a liability may one day prove to be the north country's "unclaimed treasure".

John In